

REMARKS

Without prejudice to further prosecution, please delete claims 58-60 and 64-70, which the Action deemed withdrawn from consideration as being directed to a non-elected invention. Please also delete claims 61-63, which obviates the claim rejections associated with these claims.

The allowance of Claims 14 and 15 is gratefully acknowledged. Claims 46-49 have been amended. No new claims have been added. Thus, claims 14-15 and 46-57 are pending.

There were several rejections under 112(2) in the Action, all of which have been remedied by the present amendments. Claim 46 was rejected as indefinite for not being clear as to whether the antibody binds to SEQ ID NO: 7 or may bind to an unknown region. Claim 46 has been amended to clarify that the binding must be to at least the portion of the epitope containing SEQ ID NO: 7. Claims 47, 48, and 50-57 were rejected as indefinite as to the use of the term comprising. The claims have been amended to clarify that the composition and kit comprise the polypeptide. Finally, claim 49 was rejected for lacking antecedent basis as to "wherein detecting Lyme's disease in a subject." Again, the claim has been amended to correct this issue. Thus, all of the Action's rejections have been addressed. It is respectfully asserted that the remaining claims 46-57 are in condition for allowance.

Applicants believe this addresses all issues raised in the office action. It is submitted that the claims are allowable, and issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully requested. Applicants do not believe any fees are associated with this paper, but if necessary, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any fees required by the filing of these papers, and to credit any overpayment to Perkins Coie's Deposit Account No. 50-2586. If Applicants can do anything more to expedite this application, Applicants ask the Examiner to contact the undersigned at (310) 788-9900.

Respectfully submitted,

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